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COUNTRY Germany (Soviet Zone)

REPORT

TOPIC Grossenhain Airfield

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EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 7 July 1952

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REFERENCES

PAGES

REMARKS

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1. During the nights from 1 to 6 May 1952 between 8 p.m. and midnight, individual flights were made by jet fighters at Grossenhain airfield. Not more than three jet fighters were in the air at the same time. During the landings, a searchlight located in the center of the field, north of the east-west runway, was in operation. Between 22 May and 1 June, only a little flying was observed at the field. One jet plane took off and landed at the field both on the morning and afternoon of 22 May. Only two jet planes were observed at the field. *

2. In early May, almost every day between 4 and 5 p.m., parachute jumps were made over the field. Only one parachutist jumped from one biplane.

3. A board fence about 2.5 meters high had been erected along the road to Elsterwerda. Soviet sentries patrolled along the outside of the fence, which extended from the Cottbus railroad line almost as far as the purifying plant at Kleiner Spitalteich. The fence had a gap at Elsterwerda road in line with the runway. **

4. After mid-April, Soviet AAA troops were quartered in the buildings on Karola Strasse. After the arrival of the soldiers, the buildings were surrounded by a board fence 3 meters high. [redacted] the AAA unit had arrived on foot at night. Every day in late May, two groups each of about 120 men wearing red-bordered black epaulets were observed marching from the barracks buildings to the airfield at 7:30 a.m. and returning at about 6:30. ***

5. On 8 June, a convoy of trucks, loaded with red wooden dummies, was observed proceeding on Elsterwerda-Grossenhain road toward Grossenhain. [redacted]

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Comment. This report confirms that the field is still occupied by jet fighters. [redacted] the headquarters of a fighter division and two new fighter regiments are stationed in Grossenhain. The observations concerning air activity indicate that the regiments have reached the same status of training as the other fighter regiments of the Twenty-Fourth Air Army. Individual night flights have been also observed with the other regiments. The exact number of MIG-15s stationed at the field could not be determined since the planes were probably parked in the

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hangars on the days of observation. Between 6 February and 13 May 1952, a total of 53 new MiG-15s in crates arrived from the U.S.S.R. [REDACTED]

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Therefore, it is believed that each of the two regiments is equipped with about 30 MiG-15s which is the average strength for each of the fighter units of the Twenty-Fourth Air Army.

[REDACTED] Comment. The construction of a fence was previously reported [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] Comment. The presence of an AAA unit is reported for the first time from Grossenhain airfield. The arrival of this unit is part of the AA protection apparently ordered for all airfields in the Soviet Zone of Germany. The AAA unit was mentioned [REDACTED] No information is available on the number and type of AA guns and their locations.

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